

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 20, 2003 has been received, its contents carefully noted, and the applied citations thoroughly studied. Accordingly, the foregoing revisions to the specification and claims are tendered with the conviction that patentable contrast has now been made manifest over the known prior art. Accordingly, all rejections tendered by the Examiner in the above-referenced Office Action are hereby respectfully traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

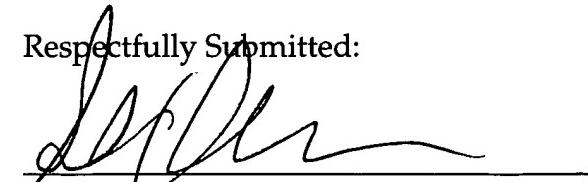
Undersigned has complied with the Examiner's requirements to result in a prompt notice of allowability.

The Examiner has inadvertently enumerated claim 3 in paragraph 2, page 2 of the Office Action. The claim the Examiner is attempting to parse is claim 1, not 3. Undersigned traverses the Examiner's rejections as to their legal correctness.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner pass this case to issue. If, upon further consideration, the Examiner believes further issues remain outstanding or new ones have been generated, undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner call undersigned to expeditiously resolve same.

Dated: April 19, 2004

Respectfully Submitted:



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